

091108 Chi Purcell.txt

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1 SCOPING MEETING FOR THE PROPOSED CANADIAN NATIONAL
2 RAILWAY COMPANY ACQUISITION OF THE
3 ELGIN, JOLIET AND EASTERN RAILWAY COMPANY
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9 STATEMENT OF:

10 ROBERTA PURCELL
11

12 September 11, 2008
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14 HOLIDAY INN HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER
15 411 SOUTH LARKIN AVENUE
16 JOLIET, ILLINOIS
17
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20 CHIMNIAK REPORTING & VIDEO

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1 MS. PURCELL: My name is Roberta
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2 Purcell, P-u-r-c-e-l-l, and I live in New
3 Lenox. I live on what would be the south
4 side of the track, far enough away that the
5 noise -- you know, I'm not here because of
6 the noise. I'm a registered nurse, and I'm
7 also a teacher.

8 My primary concerns are the lack
9 of ability of emergency vehicles to take
10 people back and forth to respond to
11 emergencies.

12 Secondary concern is getting the
13 children back and forth to school safely on
14 the school buses. Almost all of our
15 schools are on the north side of the
16 tracks. So getting them back and forth
17 with all these trains could be a real
18 problem.

19 I'm very concerned about the
20 fact that all of the police are on the
21 other side, so we -- if something were to
22 happen, we have no police.

23 we only have the one fire
24 station near us, and if we have a major

1 fire, the problems of having them come
2 here.

3 My feeling is they should be
4 required to have a minimum of one overpass,
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5 preferably two in every town that is
6 crossing through. We will have six roads
7 that will be impacted in New Lenox, main
8 roads that you travel on, and if we have --
9 we have no overpasses right now or
10 underpasses. So if they had two trains --
11 because this is the section they're putting
12 the double tracks in -- if they had two
13 trains, it would be possible there wouldn't
14 be a single road in New Lenox that any
15 emergency vehicle could come, that any
16 school bus could cross, that anyone coming
17 and going to work could cross. The entire
18 town could be bottlenecked.

19 From where I live to the nearest
20 way I could go to an underpass is going all
21 the way east to Route 45, approximately --
22 that's approximately seven to eight miles
23 from where I live out of the way of where
24 you would have to go to go to work; eight

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1 here, eight back to head that way. At the
2 price of gas, that's a lot every day.

3 Just to recap, I'm concerned
4 about education with the school buses going
5 back and forth. I'm concerned about
6 emergency vehicles being able to come back
7 and forth. I'm concerned about our ability

8 to get to the brand-new hospital for
9 healthcare if we need it.

10 As a retired person, I'm also
11 concerned that this is going to hurt the
12 value of my house, which will hurt my
13 retirement.

14 Thank you.

15 (End of statement.)

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